NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT.

PROPRIETOR.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-DAY. ANTHON MEMORIAL CHURCH. RZV. THOMAS A.

RIEECKER STREET UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION. -- REV. Dr. FLAGO. CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR, Thirty-fifth atreet.—Rev. J. M. Pullmas. Morning and evening.

CHRIST CHURCH. REV. Du. F. C. Ewen. Morning EVERETI HOOMS.—SPIRITUALISTS, Mus. NELLIE BRIG-

FREE CHURCH OF THE HOLY LIGHT, -REV. EAST-

FORTY-SECOND STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Ruy, Dr. Scott, Moraing and evening. FIFTY THIRD STREET BAPTIST CHURCH,-REV. Dr. WESTCOTT. Morning and evening.

HARVARD ROOMS, Sixth avenue. REV. Chauncey

LEXISOTON AVENUE M. E. CHUECH. - Morsing-Bishor Janes. Evening-Bishor Clark. PIKE'S OPERA HOUSE. THE MORNING STAR SUNDAY

REV. O. B. FROTHINGHAM - Church on Fortleth street, between Firth and Sixth avenues. Exemps ST. ANN'S FREE CHURCH.-Rev. Dr. Goodwin.

SEAMEN'S MISSION .- REV. Jour Miles. Aftern TRINITY CHAPEL .- REV. Dr. Dix. Evening.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH.-REV. J. STANFORD

UNIVERSITY-Washington square. BisHop Snow. Af-WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.-REV. J. C. Durchies. Morning and evening.

WEST SED STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. - REV. H. D. NOUTHERDY. - Morning and afternoon.

TRIPLE SHEET

New York, Sunday, November 15, 1868.

THE WEWS.

The cable reports are dated November 14. The provisional government of Spain has declared the freedom of the colonial ports.

Baron von der Heydt, the Prussian Finance Minlater, states that the financial difficulties of Prussia are but transitory.

Nothing has been published yet in Berlin respect-

ing Prussia's position regarding the Alabama claims. Count von der Goltz has resigned as Prussian Ambassador to Paris, and Herr von Werther has been appointed in his place.

Rossini, the great composer, died vesterday in

London-Consols, 9417; five-twenties, 7417; Illinob Centrals, 26; Erie shares, 26; Liverpool-Cotton -Middling uplands, 1034d. London-Linseed oil.

Australasia.

Our Australian correspondence is dated October 1. The recent outbreak in New Zealand indicates the policy of the natives to be extermination of the settiers or themselves. The war has assumed a religious aspect, a new sect, called Hau-haus, having sprung up, and whose growth is marked by a number of atrocities. On the 7th of September a force of British troops had an encounter with the natives, in which the troops were defeated with a heavy loss.

recently seriously embarrassed with native troubles Many settlers were murdered by the savages, who finally broke into open revolt against the govern-ment. The revolt, however, has been suppressed. the natives severely punished and the colony is more flourishing and prosperous than ever before.

Affairs in the Feejee Islands are more unsettled

than ever, and a bloody war has been inaugurated between the settlers and natives, in which the parties munity. The natives appear to have recovered their selish for human flesh, and several instances are cited in which they killed and ate prisoners taken it buttle. King Thakombau has paul the first instalment of the debt due the United States. The commander of the British war steamer Challenger atone savages and wounding a still larger number.

Central and South America. By cable we learn that the allied army is before Angostura. The Paraguayans came out in force and attacked it, but were repulsed with a loss of 380 killed and wounded. The position held by Lopez is thought to be unassailable. The rumor that Lopez had shot his two brothers is fully confirmed. General McMahon, the new United States Minister to Paraguay, had arrived at Rio Janeiro en route to the

scene of his labors. On the 16th ult. Ignacio Gutierrez Vergara, Governor of the State of Cundinamarca, pronounced against the general government. The President of the republic immediately called out the national troops and captured the rebel Governor and all his fol lowers. In other parts of the republic the friends of Vergara have risen, and a general civil war is looked upon as inevitable.

Panama is kept in a constant state of plarm by fears of an attack by the revolutionists, although none have yet been seen in the vicinity of the city. The decree of the Executive to double the common cial tax on all merchants has not yet been enforced and has been protested against by all the foreign Consuls. A fellow calling himself Captain James Smith has been arrested in Panama for stealing letter of credit from a Mr. Sargent, of San Fran cisco. It is believed that Smith is one of the gang of robbers who operated so extensively on the plain

In Peru some indications of revolution are to be perceived, although President Balta has, by his energy and sternness, shown his ability to quickly put an end to any ordinary uprising. The administration has acted nobly towards the sufferers by the earthquakes and is maturing plans to afford permanent relief to the thousands who find themselves ruined by that catastrophe. Congress has passed a vote of thanks to General Hovey, United States Minister to Peru, on account of his generous conduct during the earthquakes. Admiral Turner and the officers of the United States Navy are also very kindly remembered for their services on that occa-

Efforts are being made by the liberal party in Unite to effect reforms in the election laws, secure perfect liberty to the press, and to protect the judictary from attacks originating solely in the passions of political parties. These reforms are resisted by the administration, but are urged with vehemeno by the croses of the people. On the 13th uit., a severe ear a paske was felt at Coplapó, which injured thirty-eight buildings and caused great consternation among the inhabitants. Several volcanges in the south of Chile are in active operation.

The Meteers. The display of meteors on Friday night was witbessed in all parts of the United States, from Massachasetts to California. Our despatches state that the shower was far more brilliant than the display

A cable telegram announces that great preparations were made in England for the observance of the meteors on Friday night, but the heavens were night, however, a brilliant display was witnessed at Oxford University.

Miscellaneous.

The meeting convened in Chicago for the nurpose of organizing a Western Social Science Association, as will be seen by our report of the proceedings elsewhere, at their second nession on Wednesday adopted as the basis of their organization the con-

o Boston, fashioned upon the model of European associations of the same name, and having the same general scope of plan and purpose. A variety of very interesting papers, bearing upon topics ger main to social science and human advancement have already been submitted to the convention and a number of other equally interesting papers are still to be read.

The removed settlement of the Alabama claims is ausing no little comment in official circles at Washington. The impression prevails that a basis of set tiement has been agreed upon which affords a fair ospect of removing every cause of dissatisfaction A Washington democratic organ has a sensational rumor that prominent republicans are intriguing to give Mr. Colfax, not General Grant, the republican lectoral vote for President.

North Carolina gives Grant 12,000 majority. In he Seventh Congressional district, Jones, republican is elected by over 200 majority. The district has ocen claimed by the democrats by a large majority. About thirty young men of St. Louis, Mo., under the leadership of several old filibusters, have formed

an organization with a view to raise recruits for an smodition to Cube Two laborers were killed by a land slide in a gravel

oit near Gardner, Mass., on Friday. Lord Monek, late Governor General of Canada, and family sailed from Quebec yesterday by the steamer Nestorian. It is believed that the new Governor General of the New Dominion is already en route for Canada on board the steamer Austria, due at Quebec

in a few days.

About half-past seven o'clock yesterday moraing the ferryboat Hamilton, on the Fulton ferry, in entering the ship on the New York side, ran into the erryboat Union. The Hamilton was crowded with passengers, most of whom had congregated on the forward part of the boat and several of the more exposed, seeing a collision was imminent, jumped into the river. The crash on the boats coming together was fearful, killing two passengers and wounding some thirty others. The accident was caused solely by the incompetency of the man acting as pilot of the Hamilton.

and Badeau left yesterday morning for West Point, where they will remain until Wednesday, when the party will return to this city en route for Wash-

The Governor elect has accepted the offer of the Seventy-first regiment N. G. S. N. Y. to escort him to Albany on the day of his inauguration.

Yesterday two steamers sailed from this port for

Liverpool and Queenstown, one for Glasgow and Londonderry, one for London, one for Havre, four for New Orleans, one for Mobile, two for Savannah and four for other Southern ports.

During the last quarter the number of letters from Europe received at the Post Office in this city was 938,111; number forwarded to Europe, 1,063,650; total number, 2,001,761. The total amount of postage

received in the same time was \$260,399. A democrat is to convey a republican in a wheel-carrow from Sixth avenue, near Bieccker street, to

the HERALD building, on Monday, in payment of ar election bet. The Cuban filibuster expedition now organizing in

this city is pronounced a huge swindle The number of arrests by the city police last week

The amount of taxes received at the Tax Col. ctor's office last week was \$1,155,013; total collections on the last tax levy, \$10,582,264. The stock market was strong and excited yester

Gold closed at 1347%. With but few exceptions the markets were ex tremely quiet yesterday. Coffee was slow of sale but firm at former prices. Cotton was fairly active but irregular, and prices of the lower grades receded &c. per pound,

the market closing at 2414c. for middling upland. On 'Change flour was sparingly dealt in but unchanged in value. Wheat was in fair demand but ic. a 2c. lower. Corn was dull and nominal, while oats were in moderate request and a shade lower. Pork was dull and nominal. Beef was a trifle more active and steady, while lard was quiet and heavy. Whiskey was firm with a moderate demand stores were dull but firmly held. Petroleum was exceedingly quiet, but prices were firm, closing at 1314c, a 14c, for crude and 2714c, for refined.

Prominent Arrivals in the City. General L. E. Webb, of Wisconsin; Judge R. R Sloane, of Sandusky, and R. R. Bridges, of North Carolina, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

William Prescott Smith and Y.- W. Renfield, of Pennsylvania, are at the Colman House. Judge E. F. Mahon, of Mississippi; Judge T. F. Fuller, of Nevada; General F. D. Callender and Dr. J. S. Knight, of the United States Army; Dr. F. S. Day, of San Francisco, and Dr. Brolasiz, of Callao

Peru, are at the Metropolitan Hotel. Robert Urquhart, of Japan; Captain J. L. Case, of Saratoga, and Dr. Dawson, of Toronto, are at the

Theo. F. Randolph, Governor elect of New Jersey, and P. Brignoll, of New York, are at the Clarendon W S Grosbeck of Cincinnati and Congressmen

Charles O'Neill, of Pennsylvania, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

General W. D. Cushing, of Cleveland; S. T. Fairchild, of Cazenovia, and Mr. Livingston, of San Fran-

Our Pacific Railways-Their Commercial

cisco, are at the Hoffman House.

and Political Effect on the World. The first great period of the world's commercial history ended when Vasco de Gama doubled the Cape of Good in 1498. Previous to this date the trade of India with Europe amounted to a few thousands of tons annually, which trade found its way at an immense cost of time and labor across the Persian empire, Asiatic Turkey and Arabia. These countries then stood between the two commercial termini of the world--India and the Mediterranean. India then, already old and stagnant, scarcely felt the touch of this traffic. Light as it was, however, it gave civilization to the Mediterranean shores. Tyre became to the great inland sea what San Francisco is now to the Pacific Ocean. The new trade gave a wonderful impulse and was pregnant with opulent cities which it scattered broadcast over the Persian empire. The wealth that was poured into Syria produced an extraordinary advancement in the arts, sciences and civilization. It built up the famed Jerusalem and gave it such wealth and architectural splendor that the tide of war surged around its walls in more sieges than ever fell to the lot of any other city in history. As the trade developed itself Alexandria sprang in greatness and extended its civilization to Greece. Rome, Carthage, and then Venice felt its impulse, and in turn dictated to the world.

The Mediterranean commercial cities were in their full tide of splendor at the end of the fifteenth century. They had received their civilization, their religion, their arts and sciences from the interchange of products. These gave a forward impulse, enlarged the ideas of statesmen and of people, enabled them to appreciate art, forced inventive talent into action, built ships suited to a limited navigation, and, in general, gave the highest brain growth of that period. But the whole development was narrow. It was the caravan, the oar-propelled

vessel and the pathway of animal traffic. Now the world, entering upon the sixteenth century, faces about and breathes westward. The Mediterranean staggers under three reeling blows-that of Columbus, of Vasco de Spain and England, fall on the western semi-civilized people; cities spring into exist- may do the people will approve of his action ence; the shiprords give a new naval archi- , and hoper him for his courage.

tecture suited to the stormy Atlantic; the wealth of the Indies pours round the Cape of Good Hope; grass grows in the deep caravan rats of the Persian empire, of Arabia and of Syria; their cities disappear with the trade that gave them birth. A new civilization, born of the times, produces an intense mental impulse in Europe. The world has swelled out and requires more brains. India now feels the western touch; ordinary products mingle with the rare, and trade takes immense proportions. The tide sweeps on for three centuries; the

commercial nations roll their surplus population into the New World; steamboats, railroads and telegraphs force the wildest commercial projects into realities, and progress in full tension awaits a further development in a third and culminating period. The third period will date from the completion of the Pacific Railroad. Four hundred and sixty thousand tons of freight per year are ready at the linking of its rails to pass across the Continent. England awaits its completion to change her Australian steamship line from Panama and make Australia tributary to San Francisco. France and Holland will communicate by this route with their Indian colonies. The advantages of our geographical position make it as inevitable as fate that the whole world must pay tribute to North America. This tribute will, however, be but a small tax upon the immense advantages which it will reap in exchange. It may be said that the energy of the world here concentrated is working for the general good of mankind and not with the simple idea of national aggrandizement. In building our Pacific railroads we shall do more for the dormant masses of Asia than has been done for them in the last three thousand years. We shall draw upon them, and this will force them to produce. We shall have a closer contact with them, for their doors now face ours. We shall thus be able to exchange ideas, resulting in great mental as well as material gain to both. The capacity of Asia for trade, virtually untouched as yet, will now take new forms and receive new impulses by being placed in such immediate relationship with the whole civilized world. It is impossible to calculate the effect of the influences thus brought to bear on Eastern Asia. Old dynasties must go down, ideas of religion and of life be completely changed and the Asiatic mind take new and strange directions. Europe, conforming to the changes wrought, must recognize in the United States the favored land destined to deal civilization to the nations of the

earth. With our Pacific railroads we shall make the world homogeneous, cut down national barriers. break the marked distinctiveness of races, crush national jealousies, teach one half of mankind what the other half is, show to Asia that Europe has valuable ideas, and vice versa, and that either possesses elements of civilization foreign to the other. We shall make ourselves the schoolmaster of the world, and while we dispense its blessings shall teach the best method of making use of them.

For ourselves, our railways to the Pacific will so make us the highway of nations that the very interest taken in uninterrupted communication across our territory will be our best safeguard of unbroken nationality. If, further, we would estimate the natural result of our means of communication upon our future wealth, commerce and civilization, we have only to look at the results upon Europe of the first two periods of imperfect commercial interchange to feel that America strides onward to a great destiny-that to be an American citigen is greater than to be a king.

The Whiskey Frauds-Difficulty of Reach-

stolen from the government. The revenue is defrauded of an amount more than sufficient to pay the current expenses of the government, if economically administered, and more than the government ever cost before the late war. This fact is as undeniable as it is startling. Who will not say, then, that we have the most inefficient and corrupt government on the face of the earth? Probably there is no parallel to it in history. But what is worse and more astounding still is that these stupendous frauds cannot be reached and the criminals punished. So powerful is the combination known as the "whiskey ring," and such enormous wealth has it with which to defeat investigation and the ends of justice, that all efforts to probe the evil have failed. We saw how Binckley failed, and now we see that Judge Fullerton and others, honest and talented men, are badgered, hampered and paralyzed in the same cause. The President himself seems to be powerless. The truth is, the heads of the Treasury and Internal Revenue Departments and even the members of the Cabinet are either directly concerned in the frauds or have powerful and intimate friends who are. To screen themselves or these friends they throw obstacles in the way of investigation. It is a curious fact, too, that immediately a movement is made by the Executive to probe these frauds the Congressional Investigating Committee steps in and, under the pretence of aiding inquiry, actually defeats it. Mr. Van Wyck pretends to be the head and most active member of that committee, and if anybody could find out the frauds he ought, for he has a number of relatives of the Van Wyck family holding prominent offices in this city in the internal revenue service. How many relatives or friends has Mr. McCulloch or Mr. Rollins in this service or the whiskey business? Has Mr. Evarts any? What political influences are at work to screen the guilty? Something is radically wrong with the high officials of the government or the frauds would be exposed and prevented. They are either guilty of wilfully screening the defrauders or are incapable of performing the duties devolving upon them. In either case they ought to be suspended without delay. The President, who is honest and means well, undoubtedly, should act at once, should suspend all those who hold responsible positions and fail to do their duty in protecting the Treasury. That is the only way to reach the evil. With a new, honest and capable set of men we shall get at the truth and prevent frauds in future. This Gama and of Magellan. France, Portugal, the President should do promptly and leave the responsibility with Congress to sustain him European confine, find employment for their or the Treasury thieves. Whatever Congress The Fire Department.

The annual report of the Fire Department for the year 1867 has just been issued. It shows a most healthy and efficient condition of things in the department-economy in management, a faithful discharge of duty on the part of the employes and general activity in the suppression of fires. The well-disciplined and soldierly mind of the President of the Commissioners, General Alexander Shaler, has ev: dently impressed itself most effectually upon the entire force, and the consequence is that a thorough system of discipline exists which renders the paid department infinitely more effective than the old volunteer system, excellent as that was in many respects. The department is indebted a good deal also to the sagacity of Colonel T. Bailey Myers, who, together with General Shaler, visited the fire departments of all the leading cities throughout the country, made a careful investigation of the different systems and embodied their experience in a valuable report which has furnished immense information towards the better organization of our own department. There has been a variety of opinion as to the comparative efficacy of the new and the old fire

organizations, but we think that experience leads us to the new as the better system. One fact alone, as stated in the report before us, is of importance. It is this, that during the past year only one case of robbery at a fire had been taken cognizance of, the police protection afforded by the firemen themselves being sufficient to protect the most valuable property. We know that this was not the case under the old system, nor could it be expected, because the mob, composed mostly of idlers and rowdies, continually hung on the skirts of the regular members of the Fire Department, took a hand at the "machine, created dire confusion, destroyed all discipline and proved too much for the ordinary police force allotted to duty at a great fire. This evil has been remedied by the admirable method of military subordination which General Shaler has introduced. As the present department increases in time of service the decline in the number of disastrous conflagrations is apparent. For instance, the destruction by fire during the year ending in November were 873, involving a loss of \$5,711,000a reduction from the losses of the previous year of \$717,786. With an equivalent progressive improvement we may hope to see the losses by fire gradually reduced until the wholesale destruction which in former times devastated whole blocks and millions of property shall exist no more. The expenses of the paid Fire Department may appear upon the surface to be greater than that of the voluntary system; but we must measure the expense by the value of the service rendered. The appropriation for 1865 was \$893,000. Of this amount \$700,000 was used for the pay of the officers and men, the rest was absorbed for repairs of machines and buildings, the construction of new steamers and other contingent expenses. The number of men employed is 504. There are in active service 34 steamers and 9 band engines, with 8 steamers held in reserve for emergencies. The number of buildings used for the department is 63, and they are represented to be now, under the management of the new Board, in a cleanly and perfect condition. So also with the apparatus, the harness and horses. The men are reported, on the testimony of the district engineers and foremen, to be in a complete state of military discipline, well uniformed and filled with an honest pride in the service to

which they are devoted. Some good suggestions are contained in the report with reference to the storage of such dangerous combustibles as nitro-glycerine, gunpowder and petroleum oil. It is earnestly recommended that more stringent laws should be enacted in this regard. We have had some terrible examples of the danger accruing from the storage of these articles in the city and around the docks recently, and it is to be hoped that the Legislature about to assemble in January will pay some attention to the warning of the Fire Commissioners. In such a service as our firemen are engaged accidents which result in disabling individuals of the force are necessarily unavoidable, and we are glad to perceive that the Commissioners are not unmindful of the sufferers. It is a rule wisely and charitably established that all disabled firemen shall be transferred from active duty to the easier post of bellringers as soon as they are able to perform that work. There appears to be some improvement necessary in the fire alarms and telegraphs in certain districts of the city-a matter which should be, if it has not already been, attended to. The system of street boxes for telegraphic alarms, used in many of the Western cities, might be employed in the metropolis with equal if not greater effect, inasmuch as we have a larger area of

danger to cover. Upon the whole, the account which the Fire Department gives of itself is highly satisfactory, and is calculated to inspire confidence in the minds of the property owners and citizens generally. There are, doubtless, many improvements which may be made in the department, but with so clear a head and so well trained an official in charge of the department as General Shaler we have no reason to presume that improvement will not follow improvement until the whole organization is

CLERICAL AMENITIES. - We publish elsewhere to-day a flagrant violation of clerical amenities. It seems that an Episcopal clergyman from a distant diocese, who was invited last Sunday to address the Sunday school children of a church not a thousand miles from Wall street, indulged himself in an entirely unjustifiable strain of vituperation against the priests of the Roman Catholic Church. He denounced them as "Romish" priests, as "so-called" spiritual fathers, and did not hesitate to stigmatize the ceremonies of that Church as "abominations." Surely this was not an exemplification of the Christian charity which it is the holy office of preachers of every denomi-

nation to practise as well as to recommend. JUST So.-The Secretary of the Treasury is opposed to anything like a hurry in the proseention of Fullerton's fescarches into the whiskey frauds, and Likewise to any precipitate action upon the disclosures made against certain official's. Meantime the whiskey rings remain intact.

And that's the way the money goes;

Our Paris Fashions Letter.

Our Paris fashions letter, which is to-day as sparkling as it always has been, startles us by the announcement of two events of no small interest and importance. The first is the promulgation by the Emperor of all the Russias of a ukase prohibiting the entrance of Paris fashion journals into any part of his vast empire. "Russian ladies are not to be taught about panniers nor to be told that they wear their evening bodices much lower than Parisian dames. Polish ladies are strictly forbidden also to wear toquets; and this is all enforced," adds our correspondent, "by the same Entperor who was quite enrapture when here by the Grand Duchess, toquet and aigrettes and all!" Our correspondent, allowing that some of the fashions in the "advanced capital" of the French empire are "absurd, overdone, ruinous, suicidal, and so on," is, nevertheless, of opinion that "this crusade against fashion journals will but give them greater prestige," and, moreover, put a stop to many of the very curious questions and answers which now appear in those journals. Some of these questions, futile as they may seem, are such as no young lady can know without being told-for instance, the question as to "whether there is any particular shape for a priest's shirt distinct from other shirts." To what a lamentable state of ignorance will this new ukase of the Czar con-

demn his fair subjects! The second event is a meeting lately held at Stuttgart, at which a motion was voted insisting on the necessity of modifying the toilets of ladies. "So far, so good," says our correspondent; "I approve that Paris should not lay down the law exclusively; but a committee was organized at the close of the German meeting, composed of painters, doctors and scientific tailers, who are henceforth to set the styles, after deliberation. If I were a husband this new system would alarm me extremely. The getting up of one's wife by a painter is surely as objectionable as the turning out of one's wife by a milliner, and the chalking over of one's wife by a tailor cannot be more agreeable." Russia and Germany are manifestly throwing fashion into anarchy. The "fashionable constitution of women" is in danger, and our American ladies are advised in the midst of these revolutionary movements to remain neutral, like France in regard to Spain.

We must refer our lady readers to our Paris fushions letter for a detailed description of the most unique among the latest toilets-a morning robe, an elegant evening costume without a train (to be worn by a lady invited to the second series of invitations to the chateau at Compiègne), a hunting costume for a huntress who does not hant, the new "plain and pretty costumes, with Styrian hats" (for one of which an American lady is responsible); a "new flower star for the forehead" and the very newest and very tasteful fashion, set at the first performance of the "Périchole," of "having buttons and jewelry of the same shade as ribbon sashes, worn behind." The "Périchole," by the bye, is, we are told, no less succossful at the Variétés than the "Grande Duchesse," and it will probably be equally successful when brought out in New York at Fisk's splendid Opera House.

The Cuban Fillbusters.

There is an active Cuban fillbustering organization in this city, largely made up of disbanded soldiers from our late civil war, ready for any military enterprise promising good pay and fat pickings. But there must be some money in the movement, and, assuming that the leaders have men of means to back them up, the question still recurs how they expect to be reimbursed for their outlays? The plan of operations is, first, to secure the independence of Cuba, and, secondly, annexation to the United States. Of course with the annexation slavery would be abolished, for our fede ral "constitution as it is" says that "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in the United States, nor within their jurisdiction, save in the punishment of crimes," &c. But in the government of Cuba, first as a republic, and next in the work of transferring the island, and next in its government as a State of the Union, the leading filibusters no doubt expect to be handsomely rewarded, while it is probable that many of the island sugar and tobacco planters and manufacturers are ready to give up their slaves for the advantages of free trade and full political and social communion with the United States. There is something, too, so extortionate in the Spanish taxation of Cuba that a transfer to our Custom House and internal revenue taxes would be a great relief. These Cuban filibusters, then, have something to build upon, and so they will be apt to go ahead.

Physical and Other Convulsions of South America.

Simultaneously with the announcement that earthquakes are again shaking up the southern half of our Continent we have the news that revolution has broken out ufresh in Colombia. This time the conservatives have made an attempt to get possession of the liberal President and overibrow the present order of things-not quite a year old. The State of Panama presents the same picture as other States. What does this mean? Are the South Americans still so stupid as not to see that the commercial interests of foreigners are ready to sympathize with liberal or conservative, just as may suit? In all Spanish American countries foreigners are 'neither fish nor flesh, nor yet good red herring." So we find them conservatives now; they will be liberals to-morrow; anything the next day; after the dollars always.

Let the people of South America study and adopt General Grant's motto-Let us have peace. This Continent is eminently one for industry, and Uncle Sam must have peace to carry out the terms of his grant in the New

GENERAL GRANT'S MOVEMENTS .- General Grant, from his flying visit to this city on Friday, last, departed yesterday for West Point and will probably return this way, en route for Washington, to-morrow or next day. We understand that he will spend several days here before leaving us again, and that during his sojourn the Union League Club We suspect that these sorties of the General from Washington are shrewdly designed to scatter the officescelers. The idea is a good one; but a short trip to London and Paris, or their wallots and walches.

even to Havana, would be equal to the flanking of Vicksburg against the numerous birds of prey on the scent of the spoils.

The Meteoric Shower.

In the HERALD of to-day we give accounts of the grand meteoric display, as witnessed all over this Continent, on the evening of the 13th and morning of the 14th inst. So far an details have reached us-and we have accounts from almost every State in the Unionthe display seems to have been on a scale of magnitude quite as grand as that of the corresponding period of last year. Our savans have again been at fault. The meteoric shower was not wholly unexpected; but it was confidently predicted that it would be seen only in the Pacific Ocean and would not be visible until an advanced hour of the morning. It is undeniable that in this particular department modern science is sadly behind These material phenomena are not new. They have been witnessed at irregular intervals from the very earliest times. In the ages of darkness and superstition they were not unnaturally looked upon as special indications of the pleasure or displeasure of the gods. We have got beyond this belief; but what these brilliant visitants are, to what cause or causes we are to attribute their appearance, we are as much in darkness as ever. It is now a growing conviction with many that at this particular season of the year they have, circumstances being favorable, been visible from the very earliest times. This, however, is a point which we are willing as yet to leave to the learned in meteorological phonomena. This much, at least, it is now safe to say-that the time has come when the whole subject should be fully discussed and when the wits of the wisest should be taxed to answer the following and kindred questions: First-What are these falling or shooting stars, as we call them? Second-Do we come into contact with them after the intervals of long ages? or might they not be seen at all times if only we occupied a favorable point of observation? Third-What connection has their visible manifestation with terrestrial and atmospheric disturbances? or have they any such connec-

The Fulton Ferry Accident. In another place in this day's HERALD we

give full details of the shocking accident which occurred vesterday morning at Fulton ferry. The details speak for themselves more eloquently than any words of ours can. It is certainly to be admitted that such accidents are of rare occurrence. One such accident, however, is sufficient to inspire the community with just and well-grounded alarm. There are thousands of our people who, from the necessities of the case, have no choice but to entrust their lives twice a day to the safe keeping of our ferry companies. It is a notorious fact that the ferry companies are miserably unworthy of the trust thus reposed in them. It would not be difficult to multiply evidence to prove that the safety of the passengers is altogether a secondary consideration with the managers. In this case, however, we have to deal with the servants rather than with the masters. We have no fault to find with the deck hand who was temporarily entrusted with the management of the boat and who was directly the cause of the catastrophe. It is impossible, however, to find language sufficiently strong to denounce the conduct of the pilot. There is not one word to be said in his favor. By his negligence two persons have been killed and thirty persons have been wounded, many of them seriously, some of them, perhaps, fatally. In a community like ours it is an absolute necessity that the culpable negligence of this man be severely punished. It is unpleasant to be compelled so to write, but an example must be made. Out even of this great calamity good will have come if it hastens the tion of a bridge over the East river.

OUR STANDING ARMY .- According to the report of the Adjutant General prepared for December the regular army of the United States is 43,741 men, whites and blacks, exclusive of 4,340 in the engineer corps and other specialties. Put the whole army force in round numbers at fifty thousand men, and it does not appear large in view of the demands upon it in the South among the turbulent whites and blacks and in the West among the hostile Indians. General Grant has been cutting it down all the time, but he will have a fairer field for retrenchment after the 4th of March next, including the Freedmen's Bu-

THE SOUTHERN KU KLUX KLANS. -It is reported that the Ku Klux Klans of Arkansas, in consequence of the discovery of their signs and pass words by the State authorities, have burned up their records and have suspended operations till further orders from their general headquarters at New Orleans. We guess that in view of the incoming administration at Washington the best course for the whole Ku Klux organization and for all other secret political disturbers of the same character down South, on either side, will be to disband, disperse and go into some honest calling as soon as possible.

NOTES ABOUT TOWN.

A democrat is to tote a republican in a wheelbarrow from Sixth avenue, near Bleecker street, to the HERALD building, on Tuesday next, starting at half-past two o'clock P. M. This is to settle wager on the late election, \$1,000 being staked as forfeit in the event of the non-fuldiment of the terms of the bet.

It would seem the Nicolson pavement is coming to its legitimate end-to the fire. On Friday a cang of laborers took up a portion of the tarred dooring near Beckman street, and set it in a joily blace, to the comject of the poor woman at the apple stand near by. It was taken up, however, for replacement. How long would it stand Broadway?

The transmogrification of Tammany Ball from a council chamber for the Sachems of "the grant for washed unterrified democracy" to a varieties concert hall was commenced yesterday. The jun" in the niche over the entrance to the pretentions "wigwam" still looks exceedingly pale; but by the time the "braves" have selected another nunting ground" he may probably recover his original

nal rescale complexion.

The attention of the police authorities is again directed to that insufferable nuisance of coxcombe and pickpockets who congregate around the doors of our metropolitan churches every Sunday, and abo, as soon as the congregations are dismissed during his sojourn the Union League Club from divine service, string themselves, along the will give him a quiet but princely reception. carbstone the better to choke up the thoroughters and ply their nefarious avecations. If the pottee will but make these saintly idlers move on after they baye the church fewer ladies will be stared out of countenance and fewer persons will be relieved of